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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6576

BILL NUMBER: SB 303

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 18, 2008

BILL AMENDED: Jan 17, 2008

SUBJECT: Native American Indian Affairs Commission.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Waterman

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill provides that the members of the Native American Indian Affairs Commission receive salary per diem and reimbursement in connection with duties performed for the Commission.

Effective Date: (Amended) July 1, 2008.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This legislation provides (1) per diem salary to Commission members that are not state employees and (2) traveling expense reimbursement for all Commission members. This bill will increase expenditures by providing statutory reimbursement rates for lay members of the Commission. Costs for providing Commission members' travel expense reimbursement and per diem salary will be provided solely by funds appropriated to DWD under the bill. This bill will have an estimated net increase in expenditures of \$2,000 in per diem. The total increase in expenditures will also depend on the mileage reimbursement provided to members of the Commission.

Per Diem: The cost of per diem and subsistence allowances incurred by DWD for two members of the General Assembly and 8 lay members is estimated at \$3,200 for the year. State guidelines provide a per diem amount of \$50 for lay members and \$141 for members of the General Assembly. Under the provisions of the legislation, state employees are not entitled to the minimum salary per diem.

Currently, the two members of the General Assembly receive reimbursement from the Legislative Council budget. The legislation transfers this payment from the Legislative Council budget to DWD. This will reduce expenditures on the Legislative Council budget by an estimated \$1,200.

Travel Reimbursement: The actual travel expenditures DWD would incur as a result of the legislation would depend on the travel reimbursement requested by Commission members. Currently, 6 Commission members represent different regions of the state. The legislation will increase state expenditures by providing travel reimbursement for lay members. Indiana Native American and Indian Affairs Commission reports that the reimbursement rate for lay members is currently \$0.40 per mile.

The legislation provides that state employees that are members of the Commission are entitled to travel and expense reimbursement for costs associated with the member's duties. As of September 25, 2005, mileage reimbursement was \$0.40 for state employees.

Under the legislation, Commission members that are also members of the General Assembly would be entitled to receive travel reimbursement from the DWD. For CY 2008, the mileage reimbursement rate is \$0.505 for members of the General Assembly. Travel reimbursement is already provided to members of the General Assembly, and this provision will not increase state expenditures.

Background Information: The Native American Indian Affairs Commission met for a total of 5 times during 2007. To date, only one lay member from this Commission has received a reimbursement, in the amount of \$221. Other Commissioners have applied but have yet to finish filling out the required paperwork to receive reimbursement. The money expended thus far for reimbursement has come from the appropriations made to the DWD for the administration of the Native American Indian Affairs Commission.

Currently, members of the General Assembly receive reimbursement for their service on the Commission from the Legislative Council. State employees have not received any reimbursement for travel expenses for the service on the Commission to date.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DWD; State Budget Agency, Legislative Council.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Aleeah Livengood, Indiana Native American Indian Affairs Commission; Tony Armstrong, State Budget Agency; Cherian Madhavi, State Budget Agency, Minnie Hoskins, Indiana Department of Administration, Elizabeth Barrett, Indiana Department of Administration, Pam Kirkpatrick, Indiana House of Representatives.

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Brumbach, 232-9559.